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Col Tom Considine Wing Commander

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Videographer

June 2001

Volume 6

# **Beyond E-mail** Adding Sight to Sound

Decades ago, some forward-thinking scientists foresaw a time when people would be able to see, as well as hear, people with whom they were speaking on

the phone. There were predictions of widespread availability and use of "picture phones" someday. The futuristic forecasts have yet to come true on the grand scale envisioned by people who thought such devices would be commonplace by now. But the technology is being applied now right here at the 185<sup>th</sup>. The Video Phone is part of the new Family Readiness Center that is adjacent to the Chaplains'



Putting pictures with words through the use of a Video Phone that's now available for use at the 185th Family Readiness Center in the Headquarters Building.

office in the headquarters building. The newly installed device will enable deployed personnel who are at active duty U.S. Air Force installations worldwide to stay in touch with family members in a way they never could before. It is a great way to help counter at least some of the stress that goes along with being thousands of



May Grand Opening of the new Family Readiness Center next to the Chaplain's office in the Headquarters Building.

miles from home. To find out more about this great new service, please contact MSgt Lori Risdal at 233-0502. More information about this service will be featured in future Bat Scan issues. Some limitations do apply. Appointments are required at both sites where it is used. It is also important to keep in the mind the time differences between the Midwest and other parts of the world. Rules that pertain to "morale" calls apply to the service. Some remote bases do not have Video Phone capability.

#### **Commander's Comments**



The last few weeks have really been busy around here. The Enlisted Dining Out was held April 21st, the Iowa Family Readiness Conference was held that same weekend in Des Moines, we had a Family Information Fair on Saturday 5 May, and the Officer's Dining Out was that evening.

The 185<sup>th</sup> was well represented at the annual state Family conference in Des Moines April 20 through 22. In fact, we

had twice as many attendees as last year. At each conference, four awards are presented by the Adjutant General. We won three of the four Air awards. The Adjutant General's Family of the year award went to SMS Jim Schneider and his family, Ann, Brian and Aaron. The Adjutant General's Family Support Group of the Year - Air award went to the 185<sup>th.</sup> The Adjutant General's Military Point of Contact for Family Readiness went to MSG Lori Risdal. In addition, the volunteers put on skits on Saturday night at the conference highlighting Family Readiness issues. We won that also. TSgt Mike LaCroix, TSgt Neil Stokes, TSgt Dave Kenagy, Patty Considine and MSgt Lori Risdal were the primary players with the rest of the group playing a supportive audience. They did a take off of the show Whose Line is it Anyway? Congrats to all of the award winners, and thanks to all of the Family Readiness Group volunteers.

Staying with Family Readiness, we had a Family Information Fair on the Saturday drill 5 May. Red Cross, Insurance reps, Employer Support Group reps, wills, ID cards, and financial information were all offered or briefed to family members. Attendance was very good. This is so important now that we are doing so many contingency operations. Members have to make sure all of their paperwork is correct and their families are prepared for absences. Our Officers Dining Out Speaker - Col Jerry Driscoll - pointed out the importance of the Emergency Data Form, DD 93. Because his was current when he was captured, he didn't have a problem with his pay and benefits going to the right person.

Both the Enlisted and Officer Dining Outs were held in the past month. The new Command Chief Master Sergeant for the Air National Guard spoke at the Enlisted Dining Out. She had a very positive message about the great things we in the Air Guard do for our country. Kudos to CCM Burchard for seeing her potential and recruiting her as our speaker months before her selection to the top enlisted position in the ANG. The officers invited Col (Ret) Jerry Driscoll, who was shot down on his 112th combat mission—his 81st mission over North Vietnam—and immediately captured. He was a forceful speaker. All those guys endured so much, yet their positive attitude remains and helps all of us recall why people spend everything they have to get to this great country. Col Driscoll spoke to unit members during drill on Saturday. His story reminds all of us why we are

here, and to be prepared for life's challenges.

For all of you going on a contingency deployment this fall, either with the aircraft or with an Expeditionary Combat Support element, we will have a processing line set up on the July drill. This should cover most of the checklist items required prior to deploying. Mark your calendars—14 and 15 July will be a required UTA. If you have a conflict that just can't be resolved, get with your supervisor early.



# **The ANG Fitness Training Program**

This year's annual fitness test for the 185<sup>th</sup> will be held on July 14 and 15, UTA weekend, Saturday and Sunday at 0800 and 1000 hrs each day. Each section is requested to send at least 25% of their assigned personnel at each posted time. This will allow us to get all members tested and accommodate the mission.

The testing will consist of the standard walk/run with only those who run 1.5 miles at least 3 times per week being allowed to run, the rest of us will be required to walk.

This year we are including the DoD's requirement for muscular strength testing (push ups and sit ups). Just as the walk/run, based on your age, you will be required to perform a set number of push-ups and sit ups to pass. This first year is considered a testing year. You will be scored, but will not be given a pass or fail grade. This is your opportunity to gauge your physical condition for next year and prepare yourself, as this will become mandatory January of 2002.

If you have any questions please contact your First Sgt.

	Female	Male/Female	Male
Age	Push-ups	Sit-Ups	Push-ups
24 -	19	53	42
25 - 29	17	50	40
30 - 34	15	42	36
35 - 39	13	38	34
40 - 44	12	32	30
45 - 49	10	30	25
50 - 54	9	28	20
55 - 59	8	27	18

Note: Each must be accomplished within a two minute timeframe.

Memorandums from Air Force Chief of Staff, General Michael Ryan and Chief of Medical Services, ANG, Colonel Randall Falk, recently outlined upcoming changes In the Air National Guard Fitness Testing Programs. Plans call for push-ups and "crunches" to be required beginning next year. This year is a transitional period for fitness testing in the Air National Guard, with practice time for those new requirements. The three-mile walk will fulfill the requirement for cardiac fitness this year.



# **Command Chief Master Sergeant Comments**

Brendan R. Burchard, CMSgt Command Chief Master Sergeant

On the drill weekend of 21 April, we were graced with a visit by the Functional Manager for Air National Guard First Sergeants, Chief Master Sergeant Val Benton. She is also Air Guard Liaison to the First Sergeant's Academy at Maxwell AFB, AL. In addition to having those responsibilities, Chief Benton is the selectee for the position of Command Chief Master Sergeant of the Air National Guard. She will replace



Chief Gary Broadbent in a Change of Command ceremony on 7 June. While on base, Chief Benton directed a workshop for First Sergeants from the Sioux City, Des Moines and Lincoln units.

During the workshop Chief Benton demonstrated the knowledge she has of the career field. Those of us who have met her, and who have known Chief Benton over the years, are assured that she will do a fine job as the new Command Chief Master Sergeant (CCM). It is an extremely taxing job, involving huge travel commitments and a depth of knowledge of Air National Guard issues.

Later that evening (21 April) we had our annual Dining



CMSgt Val Benton

Out. Attendance this year was over 240 people. The event was at the Marina Inn. It was indeed a grand evening. What was especially gratifying was the number of younger (everybody looks young to me) enlisted personnel whoattended. Entertainment was provided by the Air National Guard Band of the Midwest from Peoria, IL. They were very good, and interestingly, all were Traditional Guardsmen. The only problem in getting them here was the airlift to transport them. Through the

persistent efforts of CMSgt Al Slagle, airlift was (at the last minute) provided by the Knoxville, TN Air Refueling Wing. A special thanks to those personnel who worked the night flying that Saturday night to support the airlift. It takes a lot of people to put on an event like this, and I especially wish to thank anyone who had anything to do with this. We look forward to next year's Dining Out. Mark your calendar for 6 April 02. See you there.



# Concentrated Community Commitment

Members of the 185<sup>th</sup> did their part to add value to America twice in one day, in a big way, April 28. First, they took part in Walk America to benefit The March of Dimes' work on behalf of babies. Colonel Considine was this year's Siouxland Division of The March of Dimes honorary chair of the event. Later the same day, the 185<sup>th</sup> hosted the "DARE Dance" in the hangar. That activity – aimed at helping young people resist pressure to experiment with drugs — attracted about 1,000 students. These are just two of the many contributions Air Guard people have made to their communities recently. Thank you to all you folks who did so much to help others.



D.A.R.E. Dance in the 185th Hanger



Walk America volunteers



# 185th Night at the Ballpark



Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 4. Tickets will be on sale June drill for \$5/person.

There will be a tailgate party with food and soft drinks. For any further questions contact MSgt Al Mast 233-0537.

## Son Following in Father's Footsteps

MSgt Terry Turner, ret.

On May 14, 1968, 350 members of the 185th Air Guard unit in Sioux City left for duty in Vietnam. Among those saying goodbye to their families was a young pilot, 29-year-old 1st Lt. Warren Brown. With him that day were his wife, Patricia, and his two sons, Todd, 2, and Troy, 7. It would be the last time they would see their husband and father.

Just a few short months later on July 14, 1968 Lt. Brown was flying one of many dangerous combat missions the unit flew during their year in Vietnam. Although the details of what happened are still shrouded in secrecy even today, he was apparently hit by enemy fire and tried to eject from his disabled aircraft. But something went wrong during the ejection sequence. It's been theorized that he probably hit the canopy as the seat left the aircraft and was killed.

Lt. Brown's family has maintained a connection with the 185th over the last 33 years. Brown's oldest son, Troy, now 39 and a KC-135 tanker pilot with the Tennessee Air National Guard was recently at the base. When 125 members of the unit deployed to Hawaii last month, Brown was the pilot of the plane that took them there.

Brown, who is a Major with the 134th Air Refueling Wing based at McGhee Tyson AFB in Knoxville, Tennessee, actually began his career with the Air National Guard in Sioux City when he joined the 185th in January 1981. He started as an enlisted man working in the munitions area at the base while going to Iowa State University. Brown went to pilot training in 1985 following his first year of law school at the

University of Kansas School of Law. After graduating from pilot training, his first assignment with the Air Guard was in Nashville, Tennessee where he flew the venerable four-engine turbo-prop C-130 transport. It was then that Brown decided to finish law school. "While I was at Nashville, I started going to the University of Tennessee at the law school there," says Brown. "It was then that we decided we liked Knoxville more than Nashville so I switched from the C-130s to the KC-135 and I joined this unit in 1989."

It was only a short time later that Troy literally followed in his father's footsteps and went into combat in support of Operation Desert Storm and the Gulf War. Brown went on active duty in December 1990 and flew the first of 37 combat support missions refueling fighters as they attacked Baghdad on the first night of the war.

Brown remembers an eerie feeling that surrounded that first mission. "It was a strange thing," says Brown, "my dad was 29 years old and a 1st Lt. when he was killed. His brother, Eldon Brown, was killed as a Marine pilot at the age of 29 and was also a 1st Lt. And when I leave

for Desert Storm, I'm 29 years old and a 1st Lt. I was the first KC-135 to take off out of the United Arab Emirates and I'm thinking this is not a good deal!"

In spite of those odds, Brown volunteered for two tours during Desert Shield, the initial phase of the war, and then volunteered for Desert Storm and returned home safely from the Gulf in March 1991. Brown also later flew combat support missions over Bosnia and Turkey during Operation Deny Flight.

Troy's memories of hearing of his dad's death in 1968 and the days that followed are quite clear. "I remember everything from the time two guys came to give us the news to the ceremony at the old Bellas Hess store," says Brown.

A plaque was dedicated to Lt. Brown and placed at the flagpole at the store that was located near Glenn Avenue and South Lewis Blvd. The plaque was later moved and is now on display at the Sioux Gateway Airport.

An award ceremony was also held at the Guard base when the unit returned home in 1969 to present medals to 185th members. Among the awards was the Silver Star that was presented to Troy in honor of his father.

The pain of having his father killed in a very unpopular war has been something Troy has had to deal with all his life. He could have been bitter about what happened but he decided to not to let that happen.

"It's been a struggle," says Troy. "There's always been a little of that but the thing that's overshadowed all of that is that, as a kid you kind of grab on to what you can. I was proud of my dad and that he was a pilot and had flown in Vietnam. It's always been a conflict with me, but I'm glad I chose to go ahead and deal with that and serve in the mili-

tary. I think probably I felt like my dad did when his brother died, that I had an obligation to carry on that torch, so to speak."

Troy's younger brother, Todd, now 35, lives in Indiana and works for Gateway. Troy says his brother never felt the desire to be in the military. "Maybe that was lucky for Todd," says Troy. "It was good that he was able to put all that aside and get on with his life."

Reminders of the unit's activation in 1968 and 1969 are still prevalent at the base today. The unit still uses the "Bat" call sign and the bat symbol is everywhere including the tail of each aircraft.

In November 1994 when a new street was constructed at the Air Guard base in Sioux City, Col. Dennis Swanstrom, then commander of the 185th, decided to have it named for Lt. Warren Brown. Brown Avenue



Major Troy Brown is now a pilot with the 134th Air Refueling Wing in Knoxville, Tennessee.

is the first street at the base after passing through the main gate. Brown says he, his brother and his mother, Patricia who has remarried and now lives in Leeds, have always been grateful to the 185th and all they've done to preserve the memory of his father.

"One of the things I've always appreciated about the Sioux City unit," says Brown, "is that the folks there have not forgotten. Even today people there know who Warren Brown is. They know the history of the unit. The Sioux City unit has more pride and sense of purpose than any of the Air Guard units I've ever been in."

Brown says the recent announcement that the 185th will soon convert from fighters to tankers was not good news. "In the Air Guard community when you hear about Sioux City and the 185th, you never hear anything bad. So I was really disappointed to hear that they are one of the units to lose their fighters," said Brown.

Troy Brown who now lives in Maryville, Tennessee with his wife Susanne, son Warren, 11 and daughter Heather, 7, will retire later this year from the Air Guard after 20 years of service. He wants to devote more time to his full-time career as a lawyer specializing in residential and commercial real estate.

#### The 185th in Vietnam

MSgt Terry Turner, ret.

While on duty in Vietnam from May 1968 until May 1969 the 185th Tactical Fighter Group, as it was known then, amassed an amazing combat record. The unit flew missions from Phu Cat Air Base, South Vietnam that included extremely dangerous low-level, night missions over the jungles of North Vietnam.

The 185th soon earned a reputation with U.S. and South Vietnamese ground troops for being on time and on target. Then, as now, they used the call sign "Bat" and many Army and Marine ground forces would ask for the "Bats" when they needed help in a hurry. The 185th also had the highest in-commission rate (highest percentage of combat ready aircraft) of any unit in the theater of operations.

When they returned home in 1969 the 185th had flown more than 6,400 combat sorties and amassed over 11,500 combat hours. Members of the unit were awarded 12 Silver Stars, 35 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 30 Bronze Stars, 115 Commendation Medals and 300 Air Medals.



#### Two Cold War Foes Meet On Russian Soil

Lt. Col. Robert Morrison HQ IAANG Public Affairs

Brig General Dwayne Alons, longtime 185th FW pilot and current Iowa Air National Guard Headquarters Chief of Staff, headed up an Iowa National Guard contingent that traveled to Stavropol, Russia. The purpose of the trip was to develop a relationship with the Russians for the goal of establishing an Iowa/Stavropol, Russia partnership program.

To greet General Alons in Russia was Brigadier General Bakharev of the Emergency Command of Rostov. General Bakharev is the commander for the National Emergency Services Branch of the Rostov section of Russia. The command has a local responsibility that is very similar to the state mission of our own National Guard. Early on in the discussion between the two generals, it was learned that Bakharev was a former commander of an Air Defense division in the Soviet Army. During the Cold War, General Alons spent countless hours training to attack and defend against such Soviet air defense positions. One has only to wonder if these two former foes would have ever met in other than the friendly circumstances that they meet now.

General Alons received the call last September to represent the Air side of the house on the Iowa National Guard

sponsored trip. In civilian life, Alons runs a farming operation in Hull, Iowa. The opportunity to travel to Russian came at a difficult period for the general, it was right in the middle of the time when he was harvesting soybeans. His wife Clarice assured him that they would manage the beans later, it was more important for him to make the Russian trip.

The exchange trip enabled the Iowa contingent of National Guardsmen to receive briefings on General Bakharev's emergency command's ability to respond to flood, earthquakes, nuclear emergencies and other national disasters. The Iowans also toured the basic training facilities where new young troops received initial training to serve in the National Emergency Services Branch.

General Alons returned to Iowa with a great sense of what his former foe in Russia does to react to local emergencies in their country. The exchange program brings to the surface that, in reality, there are little core differences in both Iowa and the Stavropol section of Russia. Both communities rely on well trained, well prepared servicemen to react to local emergencies for the well-being of all its citizens.



General Alons (left) walks with General Bakharev through a misty Russian rain after visiting the National Service Branch Fire Fighting School.

### **Promotions**

Col John Janson

Lt Col Rodney Spahn

Maj Kurt Kindschuh

#### 1st Lt

Tyson Herbold Leslie Zyzda-Martin

CMSgt Marc Boothby Mark Vandermolen

#### **SMSgt**

Petrina Merritt Robert Molstad Robert Ebner Paul Coupland, Jr.

#### **MSgt**

Lewis Waters Michael Fuller Daniel Vanhorsen Allan Dykstra Timothy Higgins Maurice Larson Kristie Irby

#### **TSgt**

Larry Lage Vance Choquette Wesley Fulton Daniel Davis Darin Bonneau Thomas Parrett Kevin Murphy Jamie Guy Jolene Otto Angelo Frangoulis

#### **SSgt**

Valerie Gierstorf Joseph Bousquet

#### SrA

Joshua McCaslen Misty McNamara Trevor Modlin Nathan Muecke Anson Brown

# **Legal Notice**

Due to mission-related personnel absences, the Base Legal Office will provide limited legal assistance during the June UTA (9 & 10 June 2001). Personnel who wish to have wills or powers of attorney (POA) prepared may consult an attorney during the UTA, but the documents will not be prepared until the June SUTA (23 & 24 June 2001), and may be signed and picked up during the June SUTA or the July UTA (14 & 15 July 2001).



# Former Vietnam POW, Jerry Driscoll is Keynote Speaker at the Annual Officer's Dining Out

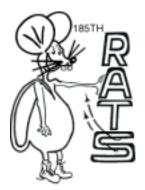
By Lt Col Robert Morrison HQ Iowa ANG Public Affairs Officer

The dreary rain outside the Dakota Dunes Country Club wasn't a distraction for the audience inside as Colonel (Ret.) Jerry Driscoll spoke of his six year, ten month, ordeal as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. Driscoll, a 1963 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, was shot down in April of 1966 while flying his 81st mission in his F-105 over North Vietnam. His talk was supplemented by a series of well-prepared slides that left the group of 185th officers spellbound. At the conclusion of the speech, Colonel Driscoll opened the floor to a question and answer session that allowed 185th fighter pilots to obtain personnel insights into his tragic experiences.

After arriving back in the United States in 1973, Colonel Driscoll returned to his Air Force flying career and eventually retired in 1987. After a 13-year career as a pilot with American Airlines, Colonel Driscoll is currently a pilot flying the Citation X for Executive Jet Aviation of Minneapolis. Driscoll also had the opportunity to address the rest of the 185<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at a session conducted in the dining facility on Saturday.

Each year at the Dining Out, 185<sup>th</sup> officers are recognized for their positive contributions to the 185<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing. The Top Gun Award goes to Major J.B. Schreur. The Kennedy Award, which was established in honor of Major Jerry Kennedy who died in a F-100 accident, went to Captain Bobbi Doorenbos. Finally, the 185<sup>th</sup> Officer of the Year recipient was Major Jeff Myers of the Services Squadron.

#### RATS



Terry Turner, MSgt ret.

The May RATS meeting was another resounding success. The Casa Del Rey dining room was filled to capacity.

The highlight of the evening was a talk by Ken Andresen, Iowa National Guard Benefits and Insurance Representative. Andresen talked about many of the benefits now available to both retired and current Guard members. He pointed out

how over the years those benefits have steadily increased to the point where a career in the National Guard, whether as a traditional Guardsman or full-time technician can be very rewarding.

The next meeting will be June 7 and will be a bus trip to Ft. Randall for an evening of fun. Contact Mick or Sharon McCuddin for reservations.

# **Annual Guard and Family Fishing Frenzy**

The annual Fishing Frenzy will be 16 June 2001 at Fort Randall, in Pickstown, South Dakota. There is a \$5.00 entry fee. Any Guard member, their family members, or retirees are invited to attend. Anyone interested in attending or for more information, please contact one of the following individuals:



Lt Col Mark Foreman – ext. 0600 TSgt David Kenagy – ext. 0711 SSgt Duane Cardwell – 0715 SMSgt David Miller – 0616 TSgt Shelby Johnson – 0612

# **Chapel Call**

A recent poll in *USA Today* revealed that Americans are increasingly having a difficult time getting sleep. As I reflected on this growing concern the thought came to me how effectively this time could be used by reading God's Word, or spending time in prayer.

In the story of Job we read how the devil tested Job to determine just how sincere his faith was. After days of testing, long hours of pain, both emotionally and physically and losing all his wealth, Job had nothing left but pain and depression. Even his friends turned against him. But the fascinating lesson in all that Job went through is revealed in Job 42:10. The verse states that despite all the devastation Job experienced, he continued to pray for his friends. Rather than being focused on self, Job remembered to pray for others. Imagine the tremendous impact we could have in this country if during those hours of sleeplessness we focused on praying for our friends.

## **Hoops for Hearts**

The 4th Annual Mark Bokemper Hoops for Hearts 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament will be held on 7 Jul 01 at the 185th FW. In case of rain, the tournament will be moved to 8 Jul 01. Volunteers are needed to be court monitors and officials. It would be best if volunteers could work the whole event, but even a half-day would be helpful. Be sure to fill out the registration forms for your team soon! The fee is \$80 per team and registration forms should be out within the next month. The Hoops for Hearts is successful because of the wonderful people who volunteer

out within the next month. The Hoops for Hearts is successful because of the wonderful people who volunteer. Without volunteers it could not happen. If anyone has questions or wants to volunteer, please call Maj Kevin Fouts at 233-0541 or Carol Fuller at 233-0839.

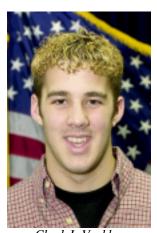
Mark Bokemper, 31, was a captain and budget analyst with the 185th Fighter Wing, Iowa Air National Guard, and died unexpectedly from cardiac arrythmia. He was healthy and unaware of his condition. Family, friends, and the American Heart Association have joined together in the fight against heart disease and are determined to support research that wil make it easier to detect these types of heart conditions.

## Foot and Mouth Disease

There's no shortage of publicity about Foot and Mouth disease, but military members who are deploying to foreign nations might not realize the implications of that highly contagious livestock disease regarding their overseas assignments. Basically, there's concern that people who visit farms or zoos in some nations (including Saudi Arabia and The United Kingdom) could unknowingly bring back home the virus that spreads Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). The virus is known to survive for at least 5 days. Footwear, clothing and car tires can harbor the virus. The animal disease is not a threat to public health, but it can devastate livestock industries. FMD affects the production of meat and dairy products. Animals that have the disease stop eating and producing milk. Information posted by the Air Force on websites points out that the U.S. Military seeks to cooperate to the maximum extent possible with both host nations and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to prevent the spread of Foot and Mouth Disease.

More information on that disease can be found at these websites:

https://www.mil.usafe.af.mil/direct/lg/lgt/fmd/footmouth.htm http://www.issues.af.mil/hot/madcow5Apr01.htm http://www.eucom.mil/news/hoof&mouth/index.htm



Chad J. Vankley Blue Earth, MN Entering jet engine career field.



Fred J. Barge Wakefield, NE Prior Marine Corp and Texas National Guard Entering Security Forces



Ron Lorenzen Sioux City, IA Prior Air Force KC-10A Crew Chief

# Welcome New Recruits to the 185th Fighter Wing!



Terrance J. McPhillips Fordyce, NE Prior USMC Reserve Entering finance section

185FW/PA 2920 Headquarters Ave Sioux City, IA 51111-1300 PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BELDENVILLE, WI
PERMIT NO. 2